

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 008908
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY AF:DBBOLEN:OMS
APPROVED BY AF:WESCHAUFEELE
S/S - MR. SEBASTIAN
S - MR. PASSAGE

-----150210Z 044715 /74-61

R 141626Z JAN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 008908

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, EGEN, CA

SUBJECT: ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND

REF: A) OTTAWA 5035; B) OTTAWA 60

1. CANADIAN EMBASSY MINISTER TURNER CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFEELE JANUARY 13 AND DELIVERED A LETTER DATED JANUARY 8 FROM MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS JAMIESON TO THE SECRETARY REGARDING THE ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND. TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY.

2. "DEAR HENRY: THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF DECEMBER 11 WHICH I RECEIVED ON DECEMBER 21 CONCERNING THE PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR RHODESIA.

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"AS YOU KNOW, CANADA HAS OVER THE YEARS SINCE UDI CLOSELY FOLLOWED DEVELOPMENTS IN RHODESIA. WE HAVE SUPPORTED INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS IN A PRACTICAL WAY THROUGH ENFORCEMENT OF UNITED NATIONS MANDATORY ECONOMIC SANCTIONS, AS WELL AS IN THE COMMONWEALTH CONTEXT, IN ORDER TO ISOLATE THE ILLEGAL REGIME WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF BRINGING ABOUT A PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE. YOU WILL,

I AM SURE, RECALL FROM OUR RECENT CONVERSATIONS ON THIS

SUBJECT THAT WE HAVE FROM THE OUTSET INDICATED OUR
SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE FOR ALL PRACTICAL STEPS WHICH
WOULD LEAD TO AN ORDERLY TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE.

"I HAVE NOW HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE THE PROPOSAL
CONTAINED IN YOUR LETTER AND ITS ATTACHMENTS.
OBVIOUSLY A GREAT DEAL OF EFFORT HAS GONE INTO THE
DEVELOPMENT OF A PRACTICAL SCHEME WHICH HAS TAKEN INTO
ACCOUNT SOME OF THE PREOCCUPATIONS AND CONCERNS ALREADY
EXPRESSED BY POTENTIAL DONORS. I CAN, AS YOU REQUESTED,
CONFIRM THAT MY GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO GIVE
SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION TO PARTICIPATION IN THE FUND.
HOWEVER, I HOPE YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THAT SOME ASPECTS
OF THE FUND PROPOSAL CONTINUE TO CONCERN US. THESE
CONCERNS, WHICH OTHER POTENTIAL DONORS MAY WELL SHARE,
WILL OF COURSE BE ELABORATED IN THE FURTHER DETAILED
DISCUSSIONS THAT YOU MENTIONED. IN THE MEANTIME I
THOUGHT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY
OBSERVATIONS:

"(A) ANY EVENTUAL CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION WOULD BE
CONDITIONAL ON CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHER DONORS ON AN
EQUITABLE BASIS--A POINT WHICH I NOTE YOU AND MR. CROSLAND
HAVE ALREADY STIPULATED WITH REGARD TO PROSPECTIVE USA
AND BRITISH CONTRIBUTIONS;

"(B) CANADA'S POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTION TO ANY FUND WOULD BE
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PREDICATED ON OUR ASSESSMENT THAT THE FUND WOULD FURTHER
THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE;

"(C) WE NOTE THAT BILATERAL AID COULD BE CONSIDERED AS
PART OF A DONOR COUNTRY'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROPOSED
FUND. IN THIS CONNECTION WE AGREE THAT A MULTILATERAL
APPROACH WOULD BE APPROPRIATE ESPECIALLY DURING THE
PERIOD OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, IT WOULD SEEM
LOGICAL THAT AFTER AN INDEPENDENT GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE
COMES TO POWER, THE EMPHASIS BY DONOR COUNTRIES WILL BE
INCREASINGLY ON BILATERAL RATHER THAN MULTILATERAL AID.
CERTAINLY WE WOULD EXPECT THIS WOULD BE TRUE OF ANY
CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION AND WE ASSUME OTHER DONORS MAY HAVE
SIMILAR VIEWS. SUCH BILATERAL ASSISTANCE MIGHT BE
COORDINATED BY MEANS OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM OF
DONOR COUNTRIES AND AGENCIES SUCH AS THOSE WHICH EXIST
FOR NUMEROUS OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

"(D) GIVEN THE POTENTIAL NUMBER OF DONORS AND THE

POSSIBLE CONSTRAINTS ON THEIR FORM OF PARTICIPATION, WE
LOOK FORWARD TO DETAILED DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING NOT ONLY
THE FINANCING BUT ALSO THE MECHANICS OF ACCOUNTABILITY
AND OPERATION OF THE PROPOSED FUND.

"IN SUMMARY, I CAN STATE THAT CANADA IS PREPARED TO
CONSIDER PARTICIPATING IN AN INTERNATIONAL FUND THAT
WILL ENSURE A SMOOTH AND PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO MAJORITY
RULE, BUT THE EXTENT AND NATURE OF CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION
WILL BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY MY
COLLEAGUES AND MYSELF FOLLOWING THE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS
MENTIONED ABOVE.

"I HAVE SENT A SIMILAR LETTER TO FOREIGN SECRETARY
CROSLAND. YOURS SINCERELY, DON JAMIESON."
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Message Attributes

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